

## General Information

---

- Projects that are deemed “ready to go” will be accorded a higher priority. To meet this requirement, the applicant should have all other funding for the project committed.
- Both the worth of the individual project in achieving the state’s objectives and the level of assistance are determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Initial screening of proposals focuses on the following elements:
  - Feasibility of project approach;
  - Eligibility under ARC Code and Appalachian Act;
  - Consistency with state and Commission goals and strategies;
  - Program and economic impact (within the context of both the region and the area to be served).
- ARC assistance is the “source of last resort.” As such, ARC funds can be used only where there is no other source of funding and/or where the Commission money will make a project feasible.
- Project applications must include measurable outputs and outcomes that are consistent with federal performance measurement requirements.
- Individuals and for-profit enterprises are not eligible for direct grant assistance but may benefit from and be served by the investment of ARC funds.
- Special provisions related to operating projects:
  - ARC funding for operating projects normally will be limited to start-up costs and two years of operation (three years of assistance);
  - No project will be guaranteed more than one year of support and applicants are advised that projects requesting multiple year funding generally will not be given a high priority;
  - Any project requesting start-up funds should be prepared to identify the sources that will underwrite the costs after the first year of Appalachian aid;
  - Generally, continuation projects (those operating in multiple years with no appreciable changes in project design or scope) should reduce the level of ARC support by at least ten percent of the amount of their previous grant or show other efforts to enhance the program attaining self-sufficiency;
  - Operating projects also will be encouraged to propose an 18-month initial project period. Since most projects need this additional time to meet unexpected start up delays, the proposed longer performance period should help avoid the need to extend project periods to meet the first year’s objectives;